

Child Development- YAG

Course Description

Child Development is a Career & Technical Education course that examines human growth and development from prenatal through adolescence. Students will explore major developmental theories, assess physical, cognitive, emotional, and social milestones, learn guidance and safety strategies, and investigate careers in early childhood and school-age education. Project-based learning and practicums will deepen skills for future coursework and employment in the education and training career cluster.

Semester 1 Outline

Unit	Topics & Activities	TEKS Alignment
Unit 1: Foundations of Child Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key developmental theories (Piaget, Erikson, Vygotsky)• Research methods in child development	§130.277(b)(2)(A–C))
Unit 2: Prenatal Development & Birth <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stages of prenatal growth• Maternal health, genetics, environmental influences• Birth processes and newborn assessment	§130.277(b)(3)(A–D))
Unit 3: Infancy (0–2 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical and motor milestones• Cognitive and language emergence• Attachment, bonding, responsive caregiving• Health, nutrition, and safety practices	§130.277(b)(4)(A–F))
Unit 4: Early Childhood (3–5 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social-emotional and play-based learning• Early literacy and numeracy concepts• Guidance strategies and positive discipline• Nutrition, injury prevention, and screening	§130.277(b)(5)(A–G))

Semester 2 Outline

Unit	Topics & Activities	TEKS Alignment
Unit 5: Middle Childhood (6–10 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peer relationships and group dynamics• Cognitive advances and academic readiness• Self-esteem, identity, and resilience• Age-appropriate activities and safety protocols	§130.277(b)(6)(A–F)	
Unit 6: Adolescence (11–18 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical, cognitive, and emotional changes• Identity development and peer influence• Risk behaviors and mental health awareness• Strategies for fostering positive adolescent growth	§130.277(b)(7)(A–E)	
Unit 7: Child Guidance & Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive behavior interventions• Mandated reporting and protective services• Emergency preparedness in childcare settings• Ethics and confidentiality	§130.277(b)(8)(A–E)	
Unit 8: Career Exploration & Professionalism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early childhood and school-age career pathways• Credentialing, certification, and continuing education• Professional skills: communication, teamwork, leadership• Practicum reflection and portfolio development	§130.277(b)(1)(A–J)	